



HERB J. WESSON, JR.
COUNCILMEMBER, 10TH DISTRICT
PRESIDENT, LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

January 15, 2013

Honorable Richard Alarcon
Councilmember, 7th District
200 N. Spring Street, Room 470
Los Angeles, CA 90012


Dear Richard:

Thank you for approaching me with the idea of creating a training program for new and continuing members of the City Council. The program, as envisioned, would provide in-depth briefings on the various aspects of the City, including the ethics regulations, budget process, and other important information regarding the duties that members of the City Council are expected to perform.

Around the same time that you presented this idea to me, representatives with Loyola Marymount University and their Center for the Study of Los Angeles approached our City Administrative Officer, Miguel Santana, with a similar idea. I believe that a program of this kind could provide a successful transition for the new members, and could be advantageous to continuing members of the City Council who may be interested.

Given the potential benefits of this program, I would appreciate your opening discussions with representatives of Loyola Marymount University and the office of the City Administrative Officer to begin putting together a draft plan for this program, which can be presented to me, the City Administrative Officer, Chief Legislative Analyst and other relevant city staff for their review. With at least seven new Councilmembers taking office in the coming year, we have an immediate need to create this informational training program and provide the best opportunity for new members to "hit the ground running." Thank you for your willingness to work on preparing a draft program for review, and I look forward to working with you to make it a success.

Sincerely,


HERB J. WESSON, Jr.
President, Los Angeles City Council
10th Council District

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